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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/295,890	04/21/99	MOUTON	J 081862.P122

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EXAMINER
FLEURANTIN, J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2172	

DATE MAILED: 08/30/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/295,690	Applicant(s) Jerom A Mouton Jr. et al.	
	Examiner Jean Bolte Fleurantin	Art Unit 2172	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ___*three*___ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *Reconsideration 06/19/2001* _____ .

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-12* _____ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-12* _____ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved   b) ☐ disapproved.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

20) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-12 are remained for examination.

Applicant's arguments submitted on June 11, 2001 with respect to claims 1-12 have been

fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

2.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flynn, Rex

A. et al. (Publication number 0 520 459 A2) ("Flynn").

As per claims 1, 5, and 9 Flynn substantially teaches a method of updating a message

from a first version to an upgraded version by chaining through intermediate versions as claimed,

comprises receiving an update message having a first version format (thus, earlier versions of

index entries indicate changes that were made to the set of first identification tags, which is

readable as receiving an update message having a first version format) (see col. 6, lines 3-5).

But, Flynn does not explicitly indicate the step of repeatedly generating a revised update message

having a next most recent version format based on the update message until a final update

message having an upgraded version format is generated. However, Flynn implicitly shows step

of the set of all first identification tags for information objects which had the descriptor assigned

to them during indexing is logically stored with that index entry, this set of first identification

tags is versioned, the latest version is stored completely as a set of first identification tags; which

is readable as repeatedly generating a revised update message having a next most recent version

format based on the update message until a final update message having an upgraded version

format is generated (see cols. 1 and 2, lines 56-58 and 1-3). Also, in columns 4 and 15; lines 1

through 5; and 42 through 49, Flynn teaches the step of the delta changes are encoded

representations of the changes that are used to generate an older version of an information object

or index entry from the latest version; and teaches the prior field/value pair is moved from the

latest version of the object to the prior version, the object id is then removed from the latest

version of the set index entries for the modified field/value pair was removed. Further, Flynn

teaches another approach is to store the version together in which case versions after the original

information object may only need to be represented by their differences from the previous

version. Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary in the art at time the invention

was made to modify the teachings of Flynn with the step of repeatedly generating a revised

update message having a next most recent version format based on the update message until a

final update message having an upgraded version format is generated. This modification would

allow the teachings of Flynn to provide a user with an historical perspective into database of

information objects through an efficient method and apparatus for versioning information objects

stored in a database as well as an index representative of the information objects (see col. 3, lines

32-37).

As per claims 2, 6, and 10, in addition the discussion in claim 1, Flynn teaches calling a

next most recent version mapping function to map contents of the first update message to

generate a second update message (thus, the latest versions of each one of the information objects

and each one of the entries in the index are maintained in the database, partial versions of each

one of the information objects and each one of the index entries are stored with the latest

versions, the partial versions contain only sufficient information about the differences between

the earlier versions and the later ones so that any early version may be reconstructed, which is

readable as calling a next most recent version mapping function to map contents of the first

update message to generate a second update message) (see abstract, lines 6-14).

As per claims 3, 7, and 11 Flynn substantially teaches a method as claimed, wherein the

update message includes a set of records for a database in the first version (thus, the changes are

stored as incremental backup changes to the information objects and index entries for each time

the objects or index entries were changed, which is readable as wherein the update message

includes a set of records for a database in the first version) (see col. 4, lines 34-37).

As per claims 4, 8, and 12 Flynn substantially teaches a method as claimed, wherein the

set of records for the database in the first version is a complete set of records for the database

(thus, a database of information objects is maintained on the disk drive or some other storage

medium in the computer system, achieves versioning by maintaining complete latest versions of

each one of the plurality of information objects and each one of the plurality of index entries in

the index, the latest version refers to a version of an information object that reflects the most

recent state of an information object; which is readable as wherein the set of records for the

database in the first version is a complete set of records for the database) (see col. 3, lines 43-55).

Also in column 4, lines 34 through 37, Flynn teaches the step of the changes are stored as

incremental backup changes to the information objects and index entries for each time the objects

or index entries were changed.

3.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure. Southgate US Patent Number 6,205,579 relates to a method for providing software

technical support, and provides a method by which software upgrades and fixes for software bugs

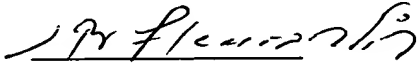may be incorporated into a customer's software from the remote location.

Conclusion

4.   Any inquiry concerning this communication from examiner should be directed to Jean

Bolte Fleurantin at (703) 308-6718. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday

from 7:30 A.M. to 6.00 P.M.

If any attempt to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Mrs. KIM VU can be reached at **(703) 305-8449.** The FAX phone number is

(703) 305-9731.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone is **(703) 305-9600**.

Jean Bolte Fleurantin

August 23, 2001

JBF/

KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100